Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Diwan Peishkar*).—Yes, we give small amounts of Rs. 50 on personal security?

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty (*Anthikkad*).—What are these taccavi loans?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Diwan Peishkar*).—It is a Mysore loan which is the same as our agricultural loan. It is a loan pledged on the future crop and is the same as our agricultural loan.

Improved methods of cultivation—Introduction of.

89. Mr. A. Narayana Menon (*Vyttila*).—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether improved methods of cultivation were introduced in any land in the State in 1112; if so, what is the total extent of the land; what cultivation is carried on in such lands;

(b) does the agricultural department possess any agency to introduce scientific and improved methods of cultivation in the State; if so, how many men work in this agency; where are they posted now; what work has been done by each in 1112 and in what form;

(c) has the agricultural department any well defined programme of work to bring about improvement in the cultivation of arable and dry lands in the State; if so, what is the programme; when was it formulated and how was it put into practical work; was non-official co-operation sought for this work?

Mr. K. Krishna Warriar (*Director of Agriculture*).—(a) Yes. 18 acres nearly; paddy, sugar-cane and cocoanut.

(b) Yes. 6 Agricultural Inspectors and 3 Specialists, one Agricultural Inspector to each Taluk has been appointed. The Head-quarters of the Specialists are in the Central Farm, but they tour about the whole of the State. The work done by the Agricultural Inspectors and Specialists are briefly given in the Administration Reports. The following are the main items of work.

1. Demonstration in ryots' lands.
2. Lectures in rural areas.
3. Publication of leaflets.
4. Suply of seeds, manures and plants.

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5. Improvements of Livestock.

6. Eradication of Pests and Diseases.

Separate statistics for the work done by each have not been maintained except the annual reports received from them.

(c) Yes. The Department is following the line of work defined in the Land Revenue Manual; since the Department was equipped, the co-operation of the public used to be sought for in times of need and advice given on the improved methods of cultivation. As much as about 600 acres of land must have been planted with fruit trees and the like by the plants supplied by the Department and about 250 acres have been cultivated with improved and selected Strains of paddy.

Loans—Grains for cultivation—Agricultural Department.

90. Mr. A. Narayana Menon *(Vyttila).*—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether grain for cultivation was loaned by the Agricultural Department in 1112; if so, in which taluk and to whom;

(b) what were the conditions in which such loans were made?

Mr. K. Krishna Warriar *(Director of Agriculture).*—(a) 1,045 paras of paddy seeds were loaned to 207 persons who are poor ordinary tenants of farmers in the Trichur taluk.

(b) The loans are to be returned in kind with 10 per cent interest per season and in cases of default they will be recovered with additional interest according to the provisions of the Revenue Recovery Act, if found necessary.

Credits Society of Agriculturists—Starting of.

91. Mr. A. Narayana Menon *(Vyttila).*—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

whether any propaganda or attempt had been made in recent times to start (i) Controlled credit societies for agriculturists;

(ii) marketing societies for agriculturists, and

(iii) Industrial marketing Societies in the State; if so, when; with what results?

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